

strengthen family life, adopt healthy lifestyles, build international understanding, make friends, go to camp, learn to swim, obtain new skills, volunteer in the community, and play basketball and other sports. Despite the ever-changing nature of the world, the need for these kinds of programs and services remains as great as it was when the YMWCA was founded in 1881.

As the proud former national President of the YMCAs of the USA, I am pleased to recognize the Y for its many contributions to the quality of life in Newark and surrounding communities and urge support for the Y so that it may continue to serve us for years to come.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF PHILIP  
CHOVAN, MARIETTA, GEORGIA

### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, one would be hard pressed to find a better example of a life spent serving others, than that of Marietta, Georgia Deputy Fire Chief Philip Chovan. After serving in the United States Army, and following his graduation from college, Deputy Chief Chovan began a career protecting his friends and neighbors from fires and other disasters.

During that career, Deputy Chief Chovan has continued to develop as a professional; earning certification after certification, and holding teaching positions where he has passed those skills along to others. In addition to engaging in practically every facet of emergency planning in his own department, Philip Chovan has served on disaster preparedness boards, such as the Georgia Local Emergency Planning Committee, on the Atlanta FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, and as a presidentially appointed member of the Defense Science Board.

While all of us hope we will never need the services of someone like Philip Chovan, I can say with great confidence he is the kind of person I would want protecting my home and family in an emergency. As he begins a well-earned retirement this year, I join the many individuals who Deputy Chief Chovan has protected from harm, in expressing our thanks and wishing him a safe and prosperous future as he pursues new challenges.

A TRIBUTE TO SMITH DOBSON

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a legendary jazz musician who passed away last month. Smith Dobson died April 20, 2001, in an automobile accident that took the life of a great pianist and teacher. Mr. Dobson was only 54.

Smith Dobson had a career that led him to some of the highest levels of performance. He has shared the stage with musicians such as Art Pepper, Pharoah Sanders, Freddie Hubbard, Mundell Lowe, Stan Getz, among many others, and has spent the last 13 years play-

ing with vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson. At the beginning of his career, in fact, he was a member of the Airmen of Note, the official White House jazz band. His teaching career has been equally praised, having held positions in jazz history at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and jazz piano and harmony at San Jose State University. Mr. Dobson was also a dedicated community advocate for musical education and outreach. He sat on the boards of the San Jose Jazz Society, the Stanford Jazz Alliance and the Kuumbwa Jazz Center in Santa Cruz.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, his death has shocked our local community as well as the jazz community at large. At his memorial service, over 1,000 people came to pay their respects, filling the chapel two hours before the service even began. His life was celebrated in word and in song, as his friends and colleagues shared tales and memories. Smith Dobson has been described as the "moral center of the community", a "world-class" player, and the "first-call guy". In fact, last year the internationally known Monterey Jazz Festival recognized his talent and dedication to his craft with a lifetime achievement award. He and his family were also the recipients of the 2001 Gail Rich Award for excellence in the arts. Mr. Dobson's loss is indeed a loss for us all.

Smith Dobson was a consummate musician and member of his community, and I am sure that his legacy will continue through the talents of his two children and wife, all of whom are accomplished musicians as well. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Gail of Santa Cruz; son, Smith Jr. of San Francisco; and daughter, Sasha, of New York; as well as thousands of musicians, friends, colleagues and fans.

### SUPPORT H.R. 10

### HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 10, the Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act. This comprehensive legislation is an excellent first step toward rectifying the severe retirement savings shortfall in this country.

Clearly we need to do more to prepare for our futures. IRA's, 401(k)s, and other tax-favored retirement plans are one way to do so. At present, half of our nation's workforce, practically 75 million Americans, lack access to a 401(k)-type plan or any kind of pension. IRA contribution limits have been frozen at the \$2,000 limit since 1981. I applaud Congressmen PORTMAN and CARDIN for creating this package that will allow Americans to set more aside in IRA or 401(k)-type plans, modernize pension laws, and provide regulatory relief to encourage more small businesses to offer retirement plans.

By allowing individuals to increase their contribution limit for both traditional and Roth IRA's to \$5,000 over the next three years, gives them the potential for a sound economic future. This legislation would allow so many working Americans the opportunity to better themselves, their families and their future. Also by including catch-up provisions granting individuals who are over 50 to increase their

contribution for IRA's to \$5,000 next year, provides these individuals to chance for a better retirement.

In today's society, we are living longer and healthier lives. Current statistics indicate that one-fifth of today's 35-year-olds who reach retirement can expect to live into their 90's. This evidence clearly demonstrates that Americans will outlive their retirement savings. Therefore, it is crucial that Congress can provide Americans, who have worked hard to support themselves and their families, every opportunity possible to achieve a financially secure retirement.

I would urge my colleagues to support this landmark legislation that would expand access to private pensions and increase flexibility for families to save for their retirement.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 11TH ANNUAL PANASONIC KID WITNESS NEWS PROGRAM AND THE NEW VISION AWARD WINNERS

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very talented group of students at Theodore Roosevelt School in Weehawken, New Jersey. On May 15th, 11th annual Panasonic Kid Witness News program will present its New Vision Awards at the Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey.

Theodore Roosevelt School's K-8 is this year's New Vision Award winner for producing the best "Local Hero" video. Videos in the Local Hero category profile an individual who represents accomplishments, heroism or spirit, and demands our attention and adulation. The video created by the Weehawken school KWN team used a series of on-camera narrators, interviews, still photographs, and home video footage to create a moving portrait of one of their classmates, 12-year-old Lenny Rodriguez, a cancer survivor who made the hard decision to have his leg amputated. In choosing the Theodore Roosevelt School, the judges selected "Our Little Giant Dares to Dream," an inspirational story about one person's extraordinary triumph over adversity. I commend Mr. Jon Hammer, 7th grade teacher and KWN coordinator, and 6th grade teacher Eileen Hochman for their generous time and support given to the Weehawken KWN team to produce such an outstanding and special video.

I am very familiar with Panasonic's Kid Witness News program. It is a hands-on, video education program, in more than 200 primarily inner-city schools in 120 U.S. cities. Using Panasonic-supplied equipment to create video projects, young people are encouraged to develop their creative, communication, and technical skills through video production. Annual awards are presented to student teams in various categories, including Best Video, Documentary, Local Hero, Multiculturalism, and News at a special program held in New Jersey each spring.

Theodore Roosevelt School was the very first participating school in Panasonic's KWN student news program. Mr. Anthony LaBruno, the school's principal, clearly understands the students' pride in accomplishing from these